

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 074631

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. WE STILL EXPECT THE IMMUNITIES LEGISLATION TO PASS THE SENATE THIS SESSION, BUT WE ARE NOT AS SURE OF THIS AS WE WERE A FEW WEEKS AGO. BECAUSE OF THE PANAMA TREATIES THE SENATE MAY NOT GET THROUGH ALL ITS SCHEDULED FOREIGN RELATIONS BUSINESS THIS SESSION.

2. RE MOSCOW STADIS 5351, METALNIKOV HAS MISREPRESENTED MARTINEAU'S REMARKS WHICH WERE GIVEN IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES FROM SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICER SUKHANOV. MARTINEAU SPECIFICALLY SAID THAT MESSAGE RESPONDING TO JCM PROPOSALS HAD NOT YET BEEN CLEARED AND SENT. ON METALNIKOV VISIT, WE ARE SENDING SEPTTEL MARTINEAU RESPONSE WHICH MAKES CLEAR THERE HAS BEEN NO COMMITMENT ON RENEWAL OR JCM MEETING AT THIS POINT. OUR PROBLEM HERE HAS BEEN THAT A KEY CABLE
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WITH OFFICIAL US RESPONSE ON JCM HAS BEEN HELD UP BY WEST WING FOR TWO WEEKS (SAME PLACE IS SITTING ON BERGLAND AND SPACE CABLES). MARTINEAU HIMSELF HAS STAYED IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH US THROUGHOUT AND SEVERAL TIMES EXPRESSED CONCERN AT THE CABLE CLEARANCE DELAY PRECISELY BECAUSE IT DISRUPTED COMMUNICATIONS THREAD WITH EMBASSY. HOPEFULLY, WE WILL HAVE SITUATION STRAIGHTENED OUT THIS WEEK AND MOVE

FROM CONFUSION TO ORDERLY SEQUENCE OF EVENTS. WE INTEND, INCIDENTALLY, TO HOLD TO MOSCOW JCM SITE IF AND WHEN JCM PLANNING MOVES.

3. YES, ALAN REICH'S 18-YEAR-OLD SON ANDY WAS KILLED IN THE CRASH OF A PRIVATE PLANE WHILE ON A SKI TRIP IN COLORADO. I'M SURE YOUR CONDOLENCES WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

3. FOR THE AMBASSADOR: STILL CHECKING THE MAY SCHEDULE; IF THINGS GO ROUTINELY, I'M SURE YOUR PLANS WOULD BE FINE BUT RIGHT NOW IT IS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT WHAT WILL BE GOING ON THEN. HOPE TO HAVE FURTHER THOUGHTS IN A DAY OR TWO. VANCE

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